

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 7, 12, 14, and 16 being independent. Claims 1-5 and 7-16 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced.

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 16 has been amended to overcome this rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,728,784 (“Mattaway”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

As amended, claim 1 recites a cooperative application system for controlling a first application and a second application respectively operating on a sending terminal and a receiving terminal that are connected via a network. The system comprises the sending terminal including a first application-control unit that is operable to give an instruction to the first application, according to a user operation of the first application or a preset condition of the first application, the instruction being adapted to control both the first application and the second application. The sending terminal also includes a sending unit that is operable to send the instruction given to the first application to the receiving terminal. Additionally, the system comprises the receiving terminal including a receiving unit that is operable to receive the instruction given to the first

application from the sending terminal and a second application-control unit that is operable to give the instruction received from the sending terminal, to the second application.

To provide context for the subject matter of claim 1, a non-limiting example on page 15, lines 1-16 of the present application describes that in one implementation:

a copy of presentation documents presented by a user of a network terminal on a side of the presenter is also set in a network terminal on a receiving side and the application is operated, and the video signal that is output from the application at other locations is switched according to an instruction from the user of the sending network terminal to switch the output from the application, so it is not necessary to send a large quantity of data to the receiving side. As a result, it is possible to reproduce the same video as the presented video at a location separated from the location of the presentation without the video breaking up and without delays. Also, the data received for the video is just an instruction to the application, so it is possible to lighten the burden of operation processing inside the terminal.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, along with its dependent claims, because Mattaway fails to describe or suggest a cooperative application system that includes a first application-control unit that is operable to give an instruction to the first application, wherein the instruction is being adopted to control both the first application operating on the sending terminal and the second application operating on the receiving terminal, and a sending unit that is operable to send the instruction given to the first application to the receiving terminal, as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Mattaway discloses a collaboration multimedia system including a plurality of notebook client processes operatively interconnected over a computer network to a conference server, and, a podium process capable of controlling the priority of communications within the conference. Mattaway at Abstract. In such a system, one client can exchange various data such as, for example, audio and video data with other clients participating in the conference. Mattaway at col. 5, lines, 58-65.

Along these lines, the clients include a graphic user interface 300, which in turn includes a public whiteboard 302. Mattaway at col. 8, lines 24-43. During a conference, users can contribute to the whiteboard (302) by copying files into the whiteboard (302) and content of the

whiteboard (302) is perceivable to other users in the conference. Mattaway at col. 8, lines 43-45. As such, Mattaway appears to describe a collaboration multimedia system in which applications on a public whiteboard is shared amongst the participants in a conference. This is different from the above-recited feature of claim 1. Specifically, in Mattaway, an operation on a client terminal changes the display on the other terminals, where the change is carried out by copying and data sharing and not by sending to a receiving terminal an instruction that is being adopted to control both a first application operating on a sending terminal and a second application operation on the receiving terminal, as recited in claim 1.

Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that “each and every element as set forth in the claims is found, either expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). For the reasons set forth above, the cited prior art does not appear to disclose expressly or inherently the above-recited feature. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the 102(e) rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

Independent claims 7, 12, 14, and 16 include features similar to the above-recited features of claim 1. Therefore, for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request that the 102(e) rejection of claims 7, 12, 14, and 16 and their dependent claims be withdrawn.

Dependent Claims

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Because claims 1, 7, 12, and 14 are allowable for the

reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims dependent thereon are also allowable. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable based on their own merits by adding novel and non-obvious features to the combination.

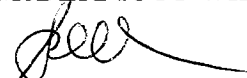
Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable over the cited prior art. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under § 102(e) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Accordingly, it is urged that the application, as now amended, is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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